

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SY-05 SCCT-01 USSS-00 FBIE-00

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O 101610Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7354

UNCLAS DUBLIN 2042

FOR EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EI

SUBJ: MESSAGE ON RELEASE OF DR. HERREMA BY POLITICAL KIDNAPPERS

1. IN THE WAKE OF THE ENDING OF THE POLITICAL KIDNAPPING OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMAN TIEDE HERREMA AT 2150 HOURS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, THERE WERE PRESSURES ON FOREIGN MISSIONS IN DUBLIN FOR COMMENT, PARTICULARLY FROM THOSE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED SIMILAR INCIDENTS OR WHO HAVE TAKEN STRONG STANDS AGAINST COMPLYING WITH POLITICAL KIDNAPPERS' DEMANDS.
2. THE AMBASSADOR SENT A MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD CONVEYING "ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND PLEASURE AND SATISFACTION AT THE OUTCOME OF THE HERREMA KIDNAPPING CASE. YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES' RESOLUTE AND PATIENT HANDLING OF THE MATTER WITHOUT COMPROMISE BROUGHT A SATISFACTORY END TO WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN A TRAGEDY, NOT ONLY FOR THOSE INTIMATELY INVOLVED, BUT FOR LAW-ABIDING AND COMPASSIONATE PEOPLES EVERYWHERE. PLEASE ACCEPT CONGRATULATIONS FROM MYSELF AND THE STAFF OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY." THE MESSAGE WAS CARRIED BY WEEKEND RADIO TV AND PRESS.

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3. JUSTICE MINISTER COONEY PUBLICLY DREW CONCLUSIONS FROM THE

GOI HANDLING OF THE MATTER WHICH WAS SIMILAR TO USG POLICY. OF THE VARIOUS CHOICES OPEN (SURRENDERING TO DEMANDS, NEGOTIATING NEW TERMS, USING FORCE, OR NEGOTIATING RELEASE WITHOUT SURRENDERING TO ANY DEMAND), THE GOI FELT THAT THE LATTER WAS "THE RIGHT STRATEGY DUE TO EXPERIENCE GAINED ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. CONTACTS WITH INTERPOL AND OTHER POLICE AGENCIES HAD CONVINCED US THAT THIS WAS THE BEST WAY TO END THE SIEGE, AND SO IT PROVED. THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON THAT COULD BE LEARNED FROM THE HERREMA AFFAIR WAS THAT GOVERNMENTS COULD NOT CONCEDE TO BLACKMAIL" HE SAID. "THIS WAS THE LESSON I WOULD HOPE WOULD BE TAKEN FROM IT: THE BASIC PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS WRONG TO CONCEDE TO BLACKMAIL."

4. THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION SUPPORTED THE HANDLING OF THE MATTER, SAYING, "THE GOVERNMENT ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR STAND IN WHICH THEY GOT THE FULL AND UNSTINTED SUPPORT FROM THE FIANNA FAIL PARTY."

5. THE FOREGOING MAY BE OF USE IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT THE SUBJECT IS RAISED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S NOON BRIEFING.
CURLEY

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